

Aruba is a rich, proven environment ... pg 2



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Impressive Children Carnaval Parade in San Nicolas



On Sunday, Aruba once more enjoyed a beautiful and majestic children's parade. No less than 8 groups participated in San Nicolas Children Carnaval Parade.

Accompanied by 7 musical bands, some 1095 participants jumped and danced to the tunes of Carnaval songs to the delight of bystanders.

Photos give an impression of the lively parade.



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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

Guest Speaker Giridhar Srinivasan of Grand Trunk
Partners asserts:

Aruba is a rich, proven environment for Public/ Private Partnerships

ORANJESTAD -- Aruba's Prime Minister Mike Eman along with Minister of Integration, Infrastructure and Environment, Oslin (Benny) Sevinger welcomed over 200 to the first PPP conference at the Renaissance Convention Center on Friday, February 18. There they presented a team consisting of Jan van Schoonhoven, Director of PPP Unit of the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure & Environment and his colleague, along with Mr. Paul Swanenvleugel, Director of PwC, who, among others, are in place to assist with the PPP process for Aruba.

Along with presenting five projects, which will hopefully be realized through PPP funding, the more than 200 attending were introduced to Giridhar Srinivasan, founder of Grand Trunk Partners in Washington, D.C. He is currently advising the investment team of IFC InfraVentures and involved in developing what will be the first grid-connected solar PV independent power plant in Sub-Saharan Africa at present, if realized. He was also a founding member of the Lehman Brothers Infrastructure Fund, formulating their strategy and investing approach.

Mr. Srinivasan expressed the opinion that PPP would make sense for Aruba and it could be quite successful deploying this form of financing for the necessary improvements to the island's infrastructure.

Public/Private Partnerships have a long history, dating back to the 1600's. Canals, toll roads and bridges, such as The Brooklyn Bridge are early ex-

amples. "Structures have evolved and been refined over the years," he explained. He pointed out failures along with success, such as toll projects in Mexico and the Latin American debt crises because of overinvestment in infrastructure.

Tables revealed the interest in PPP can be compared to a surging and receding tide; steady growth since 1990 peaked in 1997, but then there was a marked drop. Investment has steadily increased again to new highs of \$161 billion in 2007 and so far only fluctuated slightly, despite the 2008 financial crisis. The largest amounts were invested in telecoms, water and sewage, transport and then energy. More than 2/3 of those billions have been channeled to developing nations in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Mr. Srinivasan pointed out the pros and cons; instead of paying everything up front, governments can spread out payments over the life of the project. However, while the future annual payments may not show up as an accounting liability on a government balance sheet, they still incur debt and must find the funds to pay for the project. Even though a PPP can potentially be a form of off-balance sheet financing, the project will affect future cash flows and it is important to recognize PPP funding is NOT "free money."

A PPP can be more efficient and cost less than the government simply paying for a project, but, this is where the drafting of agreements is complicated and crucial.

Continued on page 3

Libya's Kadhafi under siege as cities overrun

TRIPOLI, Libya (AFP) -- Protesters overran several Libyan cities yesterday and regime stalwarts started defecting as the pillars of Moamer Kadhafi's hardline four-decade rule began to crumble.

A suggestion in Brussels by British Foreign Secretary William Hague that Kadhafi may have left the country for Venezuela was swiftly denied by Caracas, home to the embattled Libyan leader's firebrand ally President Hugo Chavez.

Two Libyan fighter pilots -- both colonels -- flew their single-seater Mirage F1 jets to Malta and said they had defected after being ordered to attack protesters in Benghazi, Maltese military and official sources told AFP.

Malta is the closest European state to Libya, just 340 kilometers (211 miles) north of its coastline.

Italy put all military air

gunfire also rattled in the capital Tripoli yesterday, where protesters attacked police stations and the offices of the state broadcaster, Kadhafi's mouthpiece, and set government buildings ablaze.

UN chief Ban Ki-moon told

Kadhafi in a phone call that the

violence "must stop immedi-

ately" and called for a broad-based dialogue, a UN spokesman said.

US President Barack Obama was "considering all appropriate actions" as Washington ordered all non-essential staff out of Libya and warned Americans to avoid travel to the north African country.

Libyan state television said security forces were battling "dens of terrorists" in a sweep that has killed a number of people, without specifying where or who was being targeted.

State television reported that Kadhafi's son, Seif al-Islam, had set up a commission to probe "the sad events," and that it would include "members of Libyan and foreign rights organisations."

He had already appeared on television overnight to warn of looming civil conflict.

Arab revolts raise new immigration fears in Europe

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AFP) -- Europe voiced fears yesterday about a new wave of illegal immigration after Libya threatened to break its cooperation on controlling the flow and more Tunisians landed on Italian shores.

With thousands fleeing from Tunisia to Italy in the past 10 days after a revolution ousted Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, European governments reacted with anger and dread after Libya warned that it could suspend its cooperation in retaliation for the EU's condemnation of a crackdown on protesters.

Heading into an EU foreign ministers meeting on the turmoil in the Arab world, German European affairs minister Werner Hoyer called the Libyan threat "an incredible

mistake," and said the EU would "not allow itself to be blackmailed."

The European Commission in October offered Libya up to 50 million euros (70 million dollars) in aid to stop the flow of illegal migrants to Europe as well as assist refugees from across the region who use the north African country as a jumping-off point to Europe.

Italy, an entry gate for African migrants seeking a better life in Europe, struck its own controversial agreement with Tripoli last year allowing the Italian navy to intercept boat people and return them to Libya. But Libyan officials summoned the Hungarian ambassador last week to warn that it would suspend cooperation if the 27-nation bloc continues to "encourage" protests.

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UNICEF Investigates “State of the Aruban Child”



Several months ago Aruba became the 36th member country in the Latin American and Caribbean region of UNICEF. Their first order of business is to do a research on the children and women of Aruba. To collect concrete data UNICEF is here to interview thirty different institutions in our community that have a direct or indirect relationship to children and women.

The institutions they will be contacting are among others; the Department of Social Affairs, the University of Aruba, Department of Public Health, Bureau Sostenemi, CBS,

Fundacion Telefon pa Hubentud, Fundacion Respetami, Fundacion pa nos Muchanan and others. The information and data they will collect will be used in the final report which will be submitted

Aruba and Panama Ready for Closer Economic Ties

Panamanian Vice Minister of Economic Affairs, Frank de Lima, spent two days on Aruba meeting with Aruba's Minister of Economic Affairs, Michelle Winklaar-Hooyboer. These meetings were follow-up meetings of an encounter held last March 2010 in Panama. The Panamanian dignitary was invited back in March to visit Aruba and to see first hand what Aruba has to offer.

Before his departure, de Lima expressed much praise for Aruba and indicated that he was impressed with the island and that he shares the vision of the government with reference to the renovation of our infrastructure and our plans to relocate the container harbor from Oranjestad to Barcadera. He also made reference to the “double taxation” treaty that Panama is about to sign with

in the month of August of this year.

This service is part of the support that Aruba is receiving from UNICEF as of last year when Aruba became a member.

Minister of Social Affairs, Michelle Winklaar-Hooyboer met with UNICEF executives who are here for this investigation. Their work will finalize with the presentation of a document concerning the “State of the Aruban Child.” The report to be submitted will include an overview of the actual situation of our children and women on Aruba. Once the data is published the government will be in a better position to take action and gear their management towards structural changes to improve the quality of life for our children and women.

the Netherlands. He believes that Aruba should follow suit which will ensure that no one will pay double taxes neither in Aruba nor in Panama. Such a treaty he believes would stimulate even more business between the two countries – Aruba and Panama.

De Lima expressed the fact that he considers Aruba a vital partner for Panama, because Aruba purchases 37.5 million dollars worth of goods annually through our Free Zone.

It was agreed that there will be more communication between Panama and Aruba and that he will arrange for Panamanian government officials to sit at the table with Aruban officials to discuss various forms of economic cooperation which would benefit and provide even more progress for both countries.



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Guest Speaker Giridhar Srinivasan of Grand Trunk Partners . . .

Continued from page 2

The traditional relationship between government and contractor can now be more beneficial for the government as it places the responsibility of maintenance of the project in the hands of the contractor, but should not allow for the demand of payment for going over agreed costs. If the contractor must pay for maintaining the project, this encourages them to build with better quality, thus reducing costs down the line.

“A contractor is almost always going to claim overages and want to be paid for them,” warned Mr. Srinivasan. “It is up to the government to see they sign a contract which will not allow this; problems incurred should be the responsibility of the contractor and solved by them. This conflict almost always arises and renegotiation is a common occurrence, but can be avoided. A great deal of care and detail must be at-

tended to in the original negotiations and drafting of the agreement; cancellation is rare. Thousand of projects (and mistakes) have been made-learn from the history of the failures!” He also warns against blanket government guarantees, as they make bidders lax about due diligence.

When examining what investors look for in what they consider would be a successful PPP, Mr. Srinivasan noted that Aruba scores high marks on the principal factors. The island has a robust rule of law as part of the Dutch Kingdom; investors have access to European courts in the case of defaults. The strong regulatory environment on financial transactions and Aruba has an attractive track record for paying back on major projects, such as the Reina Beatrix Airport and the Vader Piet Windmill Park. Other strong points

are ready availability of international financing and positive public support of the proposed projects.

He also warned what the government should keep in mind to facilitate the tender process. Investors consider most important a well defined and short bidding process, with dedicated procuring authority in place. He recommended using World Bank Procurement Guidelines, which are familiar to most major investors in infrastructure.

Mr. Srinivasan’s illuminating presentation sparked great interest and excitement among those attending, as well as raising some pertinent questions. For lack of physical space, THE MORNING NEWS will continue with the report on the PPP conference and the questions that arise in upcoming issues.

by Rosalie Klein



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Paseo Herencia teams up with Garage Cordia for islanders to "Build Your Dreams"



Candy Rasmijn with the Garage Cordia team and the new F0



mellow entertainment with Idyl Mist

Arubans had an entertaining look at an affordable new auto from China at the Paseo Herencia Shopping Center in Palm Beach on Saturday evening, February 19. Paseo Marketing Manager Candy Rasmijn partnered with executive staff of Garage Cordia, the exclusive agent for Toyota on Aruba, to introduce a new offering from the orient, the F0 from BYD (Build Your Dreams) Auto. The cute Chinese car boasts a price tag of 18,000 Arubian florins, and can be financed

for only 414 per month; additional discounted insurance packages are being offered by Nagico.

The curious had a chance to look over this new option in autos for Aruba while enjoying some very mellow entertainment on the center stage from Idyl Mist with singers Josh, Cancy and Genesis performing a medley of classic mellow rock. The evening ended with a taste of carnival, and it was an enlightening experience for all.

by Rosalie Klein

Foundation for Breastfeeding Aruba submits Master Plan



Last Friday in our City Hall Building representatives of the new Platform Breastfeeding Aruba (in Papiamento called Plataforma Lechi Pecho Aruba) presented a document with their five-year plan 2011-2015 to the Minister of Social Affairs, Michelle Winklaar-Hooyboer and the Minister of Public Health, Dr. Richard Visser.

This new platform, enacted on December 19, 2010, involves all parties having to do with infantile maternity care, and is designed to improve the practice of breastfeeding on our island.

The objective of the organization is to, through a specific plan of action, motivate and create circumstances whereby by the year 2015 at least 15% of all newborns annually will receive only breast milk for the first 6 months of their life and that 50% of all babies will receive a combination of breast milk and milk formulas during their first 6 months of life.

Compared to the statistics of 2002, the Breastfeeding

foundation is pleased to report that there has been progress and that many more mothers are now breastfeeding their infants.

They are convinced that it is essential that all babies receive breast milk for at least the first 6 months of their life, and preferably only breast milk. They also recommend that breast feeding continue into the second year of the child's life, or whenever the baby indicates that he no longer wants the breast milk. Everyone should cooperate to allow young mothers to breast feed their infants; and provide these mothers with the necessary information on how best to do this.

The Minister expressed her satisfaction that the foundation decided to include the Department of Social Affairs in their program, and congratulated them on their efforts. Winklaar-Hooyboer believes that their program will have a lasting positive effect not only on the mother and child who receives breast milk, but in

essence everyone in the family will feel the positive results of this practice. The Minister made reference to the soon to be realized Centro pa Desaroyo di Hende Muher (Center for the Development of Women) which she indicated could incorporate several of the plans of the Breastfeeding Foundation.

Minister Visser of Public Health remarked that the theme of breastfeeding is part of the Aruba national plan for 2009-2015 and that the foundation's work is an important step in promoting good health for both children and adults in our community. He believes that a baby that was breastfed will make a difference in his health and development and will result in a 50% reduction in potential medical care for the baby. There are also long-term benefits for the growing child up to his adult years.

Both dignitaries received an hour glass as gift from Plataforma Lechi Pecho Aruba with an inscription of the goal of the foundation.

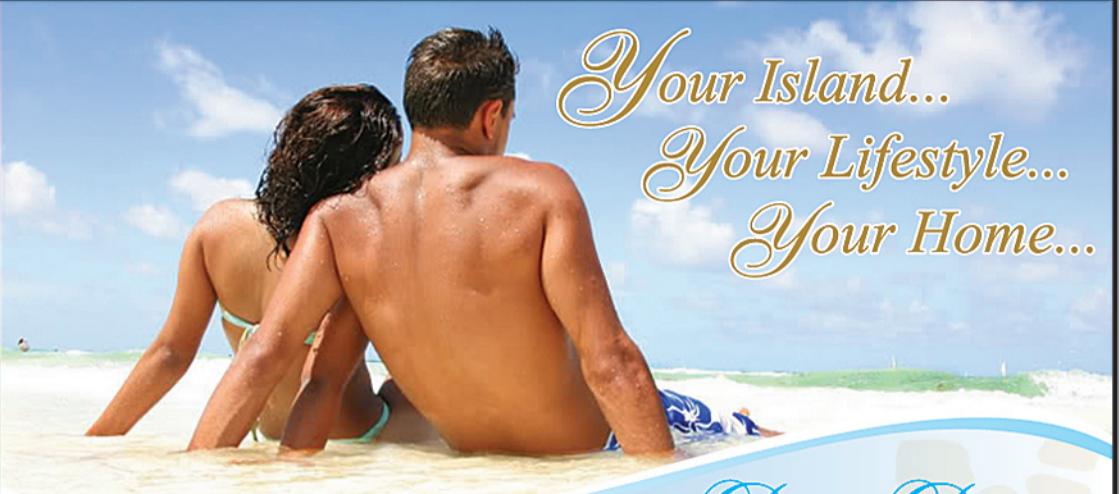
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Aruba National Park: Innovation and Sustainable Development



the ceremony of the start of the construction work at the Arikok National Park. "Our vision is engulfed in sustainable economic development in the broadest sense, in which the Green Gateway symbolizes an innovative and competitive economy of business and industry with strategic partners from around the world. An economy where companies are cognizant of their social responsibility with respect to our culture and the environment," remarked the minister of culture and eco-

able development; using alternative energy to ensure that the Park becomes greener than it already is and to be even better prepared for the innovation that this will bring.

This is how the government is realizing its vision. In order to achieve their objective there is a list of projects which must be implemented and to do so with respect to: Sustainability, Competitiveness and Innovation. The minister continued to indicate that it is not enough to say that this is what we want for Aruba, but more importantly is to act intelligently, decisively and consistently in executing this vision.

This project demonstrates what is necessary in order to achieve sustainable projects: our natural resources such as the sun, the use of green energy, our partnership within the Dutch Kingdom, collaboration between public and private sectors, and acquiring the latest in green technology.

As we celebrate our 25th anniversary of Status Aparte, we begin a new decade to in-

....."We see Aruba as a green pearl in the Caribbean and it is our vision for the world to consider us as a Green Gateway." These were some of the remarks made by Minister Michell Winklaar-Hooyboer at

economic affairs.

The ceremony marked the beginning of a major Solar Panel alternative energy project (Green Energy). This project puts the Arikok National Park in the new era of sustain-



introduce new opportunities of sustainable and innovative development. Arikok National Park is now an example of alternative energy and the place where we are placing the platform for new opportunities that will enable us to achieve our goal of the future...to be the "Green Gateway."

This project, according to the minister, makes Aruba a real hub with Europe. This is a sort of showcase for other European companies interested in investing in Aruba. Not

only are we a showcase for Europe, but also for places like Panama. Coincidentally, the Vice Minister of Panama, Mr. Frank de Lima, was at hand to witness the start of this project.

The minister had words of praise for the supervisory board, management and staff of Arikok National Park, as well as for Stork-West, the company charged with setting up the project, and for all those who cooperated in order to make the project possible.

Sci-Tech

Space weather could wreak havoc in gadget-driven world

WASHINGTON (AFP) — A geomagnetic space storm sparked by a solar eruption like the one that flared toward Earth Tuesday is bound to strike again and could wreak havoc across the gadget-happy modern world, experts say.

Contemporary society is increasingly vulnerable to space weather because of our dependence on satellite systems for synchronizing computers, airline navigation, telecommunications networks and other electronic devices.

A potent solar storm could disrupt these technologies, scorch satellites, crash stock markets and cause power outages that last weeks or months, experts said Saturday at the American Association for the Advancement of Science's annual meeting.

The situation will only get more dire because the solar cycle is heading into a period of more intense activity in the coming 11 years.

"This is not a matter of if, it is simply a matter of when and how big," said National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration administrator Jane Lubchenco.

"The last time we had a maximum in the solar cycle, about 10 years ago, the world was a very different place. Cell phones are now ubiquitous; they were certainly around (before) but we didn't rely on them for so many different things," she said.

"Many things that we take for granted today are so much more prone to the process of space weather than was the case in the last solar maximum."

The experts admitted that currently, little that can be done to predict such a storm, much less shield the world's electrical grid by doing anything other shutting off power to some of the vulnerable areas until the danger passes.

"Please don't panic," said Stephan Lechner, director of the European Commission Joint Research Center, drawing laughter from the scientists and journalists in the audience. "Overreaction will make the situation worse."

The root of the world's vulnerability in the modern age is global positioning systems, or GPS devices, that provide navigational help but also serve as time synchronizers for computer networks

and electronic equipment, he said.

"GPS helped and created a new dependency," said Lechner, noting that the technology's influence extends to aerospace and defense, digital broadcast, financial services and government agencies.

In Europe alone, there are 200 separate telecommunication operators, and "nothing is standardized," he said.

"We are far from understanding all the implications here," he said.

World governments are hurrying to work on strategies for cooperation and information sharing ahead of the next anticipated storm, though forecasters admit they are not sure when that may occur.

"Actually we cannot tell if there is going to be a big storm six months from now but we can tell when conditions are ripe for a storm to take place," said the European Space Agency's Juha-Pekka Luntama.

On Tuesday at 0156 GMT, a huge solar eruption, the strongest in about five years, sent a torrent of charged plasma particles hurtling toward the Earth at a speed of 560 miles (900 kilometers) per second.

The force of the Class X flash, the most powerful of all solar events, lit up auroras and disrupted some radio communications, but the effects were largely confined to the northern latitudes.

"Actually it turned out that we were well protected this time. The magnetic fields were aligned parallel so not much happened," said Luntama.

"In another case things might have been different."

Space storms are not new. The first major solar flare was recorded by British astronomer Richard Carrington in 1859.

A panel of NASA-assembled scientists issued a report in 2009 that said a powerful solar flare could overwhelm high-voltage transformers with electrical currents and short-circuit energy grids.

Such a catastrophic event could cost the United States alone up to two trillion dollars in repairs in the first year -- and it could take up to 10 years to fully recover, the report said.

Seaweed defense offers clues against malaria

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Seaweed sends off a natural chemical response to ward off fungi that would otherwise colonize an injured plant, a process that could help the search for anti-malaria drugs, a US scientist said Monday.

Malaria, caused by the parasite Plasmodium falciparum, kills more than a million people worldwide each year, and new drugs are needed because the parasite is developing resistance to popular pharmaceuticals.

"There are only a couple of drugs left that are effective against malaria in all areas of the world, so we are hopeful that these molecules will continue to show promise as we develop them further as pharmaceutical leads," said scientist Julia Kubanek, an associate professor at Georgia Tech.

Researchers discovered the class of seaweed defense compounds, known as bromophycolides, by studying 800 species of seaweed off Fiji Island.

One type in particular caught their attention, *Callophytus serratus*, "because it seemed particularly adept at fighting off microbial infections," said the study presented Monday at an international science conference in Washington.

The molecules appeared in light-colored blotches on certain parts of the seaweed, and were visible with the help of a new technique known as desorption electrospray ionization mass spectrometry developed at the Georgia

Tech's School of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

"The alga is marshaling its defenses and displaying them in a way that blocks the entry points for microbes that might invade and cause disease," said Kubanek.

"Seaweeds don't have immune responses like humans do. But instead, they have some chemical compounds in their tissues to protect them," she said.

"We can co-opt these chemical processes for human benefit in the form of new treatments for diseases that affect us."

However, more research needs to be done before the process can be turned into a drug for humans, and studies on mice are planned next.

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Health & Living

Choking: First aid

Choking occurs when a foreign object becomes lodged in the throat or windpipe, blocking the flow of air. In adults, a piece of food often is the culprit. Young children often swallow small objects. Because choking cuts off oxygen to the brain, administer first aid as quickly as possible.

The universal sign for choking is hands clutched to the throat. If the person doesn't give the signal, look for these indications:

- Inability to talk
- Difficulty breathing or noisy breathing
- Inability to cough forcefully
- Skin, lips and nails turning blue or dusky
- Loss of consciousness

If choking is occurring, the Red Cross recommends a "five-and-five" approach to delivering first aid:

- Give 5 back blows. First, deliver five back blows between the person's shoulder blades with the heel of your hand.
- Give 5 abdominal thrusts. Perform five abdominal thrusts (also known as the Heimlich maneuver).
- Alternate between 5 blows

and 5 thrusts until the blockage is dislodged.

To perform abdominal thrusts (Heimlich maneuver) on someone else:

- Stand behind the person. Wrap your arms around the waist. Tip the person forward slightly.
- Make a fist with one hand. Position it slightly above the person's navel.
- Grasp the fist with the other hand. Press hard into the abdomen with a quick, upward thrust — as if trying to lift the person up.
- Perform a total of 5 abdominal thrusts, if needed. If the blockage still isn't dislodged, repeat the five-and-five cycle.
- If you're the only rescuer, perform back blows and abdominal thrusts before calling 911 or your local emergency number for help. If another person is available, have that person call for help while you perform first aid.

If the person becomes unconscious, perform standard CPR with chest compressions.

To perform abdominal thrusts (Heimlich maneuver) on yourself:

If you're alone and choking, you'll be unable to effectively deliver back blows to yourself. However, you can still perform abdominal thrusts to dislodge the item.

- Place a fist slightly above your navel.
- Grasp your fist with the other hand and bend over a hard surface — a countertop or chair will do.
- Shove your fist inward and upward.

Clearing the airway of a pregnant woman or obese person:

- Position your hands a little bit higher than with a normal Heimlich maneuver, at the base of the breastbone, just above the joining of the lowest ribs.

Proceed as with the Heimlich maneuver, pressing hard into the chest, with a quick thrust.

- Repeat until the food or other blockage is dislodged or the person becomes unconscious.

Clearing the airway of an unconscious person:

- Lower the person on his or her back onto the floor.

■ Clear the airway. If there's a visible blockage at the back of the throat or high in the throat, reach a finger into the mouth and sweep out the cause of the blockage. Be careful not to push the food or object deeper into the airway, which can happen easily in young children.

■ Begin cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) if the object remains lodged and the person doesn't respond after you take the above measures. The chest compressions used in CPR may dislodge the object. Remember to recheck the mouth periodically.

Clearing the airway of a choking infant younger than age 1:

- Assume a seated position and hold the infant facedown on your forearm, which is resting on your thigh.

■ Thump the infant gently but firmly five times on the middle of the back using the heel of your hand. The combination of gravity and the back blows should release the blocking object.

- Hold the infant faceup on your forearm with the head lower than the trunk if the above doesn't work. Using



two fingers placed at the center of the infant's breastbone, give five quick chest compressions.

- Repeat the back blows and chest thrusts if breathing doesn't resume. Call for emergency medical help.

■ Begin infant CPR if one of these techniques opens the airway but the infant doesn't resume breathing.

If the child is older than age 1, give abdominal thrusts only.

To prepare yourself for these situations, learn the Heimlich maneuver and CPR in a certified first-aid training course.

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Block the Sun, Keep the Fun

Links Ladies enjoy informative lunch at Windows on Aruba



A special luncheon at Windows on Aruba was offered to the Links Ladies by the local purveyor of Neutrogena. Christine Hintz, Jr Brand Manager at Manrique Capriles orchestrated an informative presentation on the merits of the excellent skin products especially the ones designed to shield the golfers' faces from the damaging effects of the sun.

Neutrogena presented its latest Anti-Oxidant Age Reversal line of products, and its Deep Clean, Health Defense products as well as the famous Age Shield Face Sun Block already very popular



on the golf course.

The culinary brigade presented an excellent creamy Lobster Bisque with Scallops, Shrimp and French Brandy chase of a fancy Caesar and Chicken Salad garnished by Parmesan Cheese,

garlic croutons and bacon bits.

Pictures here the elegant luncheon, at Windows on Aruba teaching the Link Ladies to Block the Sun and Keep the Fun.

CO MICS

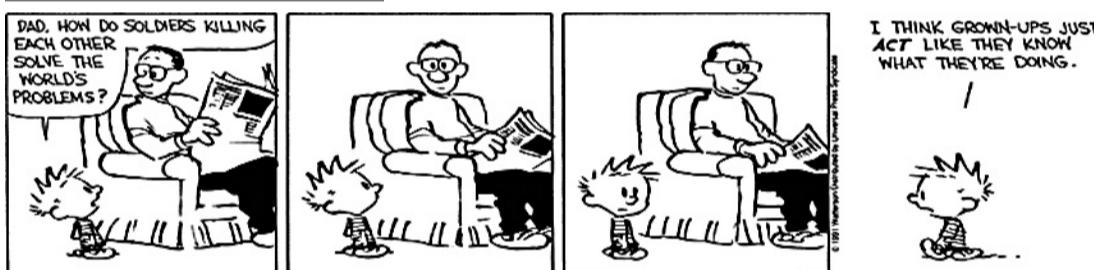
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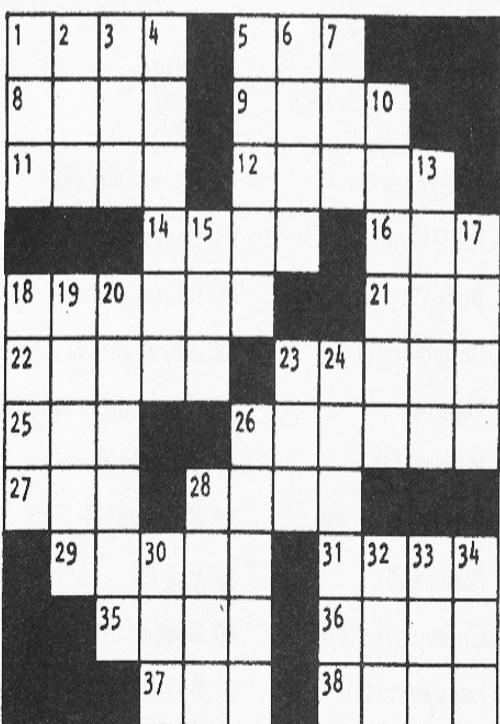
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1. Rueful word
5. Actress Sandra

DOWN

8. Idiot
9. Grade
11. Agitate



12. Rub out
14. Epochs
16. Bill
18. Small waterway
21. Red ___ beet:
 2 wds.
22. "The Skin of Our
 ____"
23. Refreshment for
 plants
25. Dine
26. City inns
27. Before: prefix
28. Chimney dust
29. America's Cup
 boat
31. Great Lake
35. Lemon's cousin
36. Egyptian river
37. Guided
38. Raggedy Ann, e.g.

DOWN
1. Paid notices

SOLUTION

3	4	2	6	7	9	1	8
6	9	5	2	1	8	7	3
8	7	1	5	4	3	2	9
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5	6	8	1	2	4	3	7
7	1	9	8	3	5	4	6
9	8	3	7	5	2	6	4
1	5	6	7	4	8	6	2
4	2	6	3	9	1	8	5

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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3	4	2	6	7	9	1	8
6	9	5	2	1	8	7	3
8	7	1	5	4	3	2	9
2	3	4	9	6	7	5	1
5	6	8	1	2	4	3	7
7	1	9	8	3	5	4	6
9	8	3	7	5	2	6	4
1	5	6	7	4	8	6	2
4	2	6	3	9	1	8	5

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BRIEFS:

Oil soars past \$105 on Libya violence:

LONDON (AFP) – Brent oil prices soared above \$105 per barrel beginning this week, striking a fresh two-year peak as deadly violence in Libya fuelled concerns over spreading unrest in the Middle East and north Africa region.

Brent North Sea crude for delivery in April surged to \$105.15 per barrel, the highest level since late September 2008, before pulling back slightly to \$105.02, up \$2.50 from week-end's closing level.

Angry Libyan protesters ransacked the state broadcaster and set government buildings ablaze, as the son of leader Moamer Kadhafi warned the country faces civil war and "rivers of blood".

=====

BP, India's Reliance in \$20 bn energy tie-up:

LONDON (AFP) – British energy giant BP and India's Reliance Industries announced a large investment deal which could be worth up to \$20 billion, with later investment in key Indian oil and gas assets.

BP said it will pay \$7.2 billion (5.3 billion euros) to Reliance for a 30-percent stake in 23 Indian oil and gas blocks, unveiling another major foreign venture as it seeks to move on from the Gulf of Mexico oil disaster.

Last month, the embattled group joined forces with Russia's Rosneft in what could be another transforming deal to explore for oil in the Arctic region.

=====

China's Alibaba bosses step down after fraud probe:

SHANGHAI (AFP) – Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba.com said its chief executive and head of operations had resigned after a probe found fraudulent suppliers had used the site to cheat buyers.

David Wei and Elvis Lee resigned as chief executive officer and chief operating officer respectively, accepting responsibility for "systemic breakdowns" that allowed the fraud to happen, the company said in a statement.

However, the board accepted that Wei and Lee had taken responsibility for the systemic breakdowns, the statement to the Hong Kong Stock Exchange said.

=====

Shell agrees to sell African assets for £620 mn:

LONDON (AFP) – Anglo-Dutch energy giant Shell agreed to sell most of its African oil-products operations for 620 million pounds (\$1 billion) as it continues to sell off its non-core assets. The London-based energy major announced in a statement that it will create two new joint ventures under a deal with Swiss group Vitol and Africa-based Helios Investment Partners.

The announcement comes one week after Indian group Essar Energy agreed to buy Shell's Stanlow refinery in Cheshire, northwest England.

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National Council for Innovation & Competitiveness (NCIC) developing National Innovation Strategies and Scorecard

"Without economic intelligence we are lost like a ship caught in a perfect storm" according to NCIC president, Prof. Dr. Ryan R. Peterson

ORANJESTAD -- Recently, a National Council for Innovation & Competitiveness (NCIC) for Aruba was launched in collaboration with the government and industry of Aruba. Chaired by Prof. Dr. Ryan R. Peterson, professor and scientific researcher on economic innovation at the University of Aruba, the Council consist of members of the Department of Economic Affairs, the Aruba Trade and Industry Association, the Free Zone Aruba, University of Aruba researchers, and works in close association with the Department of Education, the Central Bank of Aruba, the Central Bureau of Statistics, the Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association, and the Chamber of Commerce. The NCIC is thus a knowledge-based platform for public-private council and collaboration.

The main task of the NCIC is to council both government and non-governmental agencies, including the private sector and industry associations with regard to new innovation strategies for improving productivity and workforce agility, and entrepreneurship and economic competitiveness. In addition, a key task of the NCIC is to provide economic intelligence and research-based recommendations based on national data collection and analysis in the form of a National Information System for Innovation (NISI). In order to realize the foregoing mission, the NCIC consists of public, private and academic representatives, that collectively, yet independently, bring their respective assets, networks, strengths and expertise to the strategic round table conversations.

The involvement of the private sector, and more directly, the Aruba Trade and Industry Association (ATIA) and the Chamber of Commerce (CoC)

are fundamental in working directly with companies across different industries, which will secure and stimulate both the input and the output to and from innovation policies and business entrepreneurial activi-



ties. It provides a national platform on not only economic productivity and diversification, but more importantly on improving our economic resilience and regional competitiveness. Herein, the role of the Free Zone Aruba is crucial as well in looking beyond our boundaries towards international trade and economic partnerships as we create a gateway for international investments and new business opportunities.

From the public sector, smart regulation, fiscal incentives, international public diplomacy, regional trade relations, and (foreign) investment promotion are top on the agenda, in which the public sector fulfills an enabling and facilitative role for private sector initiatives and entrepreneurs. Herein the Department of Economic Affairs plays a leading role. In addition, creating a stable and solid macroeconomic infrastructure will be crucial as we move forward in winning the future. The role of the government and the central bank play a key role in national issues surrounding for instance, government debt, national savings rate, inflation

trends, a stable currency, interest rate spread, and country credit ratings.

Last but not least, the university and academy plays a crucial role in conducting scientific research on national innovation, entrepreneurship, and competitiveness, and developing evidence-based policy recommendations for public and private sector stakeholders. Herein the participation of scientists, scholars and students involved in their PhD and Master studies will be essential, as it provides an important means of leveraging knowledge into development, and vice versa. Currently, already three PhD students at the University of Aruba are involved in conducting scientific research on macro-economic and micro-economic elements of enabling national innovation and improved competitiveness. Herein, the quality of national data and the Central Bureau of Statistics are key to creating a National Information System for Innovation, which provides different national innovation indicators in the form of an 'innovation scorecard' for assessing, analyzing and activating new innovation policies. Without economic intelligence we are lost like a ship at sea caught in a perfect storm of volatility and vulnerability.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

S	P	A	R	T	O	T	S
S	P	A	R	E	A	R	E
A	I	R	E	D	T	E	N
F	E	S	A	T	T	R	I
E	L	S	E	L	E	A	S
C	A	R	E	E	N	P	A
A	D	E	N	W	E	L	E
R	A	T	E	D	O	L	I
S	P	I	R	E	R	V	I
T	E	A	R	D	E	E	R

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Have you had your breakfast today?
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Linda and Ramon Pimienta with their son Raymond, at right

When Linda and Ramon Pimienta started their small business at the old wharf down town, little did they know that they had a gold-mine when it comes to the perfect blend of international and local cuisine. Nowadays, they are located right behind the Royal Plaza Mall where they serve up a storm to visitors and locals alike. What is their secret? Offering high quality dishes at super prizes that fit anyone's budget.

have been with the company for ten years are ready to serve you with a smile.

Besides serving traditional breakfast dishes such as eggs sunny side up with ham and cheese, scrambled or plain they also serve pastechi horna (a small pie pocket with different fillings), crêpes, sweet crêpes and bagels with cream cheese, smoked salmon or boiled eggs.

If you want to really experience the Aruban twist you might want to try something



For ten years The Old Fisherman has been serving local cuisine with an international twist for lunch and dinner and they have managed to stay on top by using high quality fresh ingredients. From their fish cakes with "funchi" (polenta) and "pan

from the local breakfast menu served on pan grandi (rama) or a baguette. You can try the delicious kerrie-kerrie (a typical Aruban flaked fish), conch, fish egg, shrimp, fish fillet, fish cake and the chicken soup or you can have fruit salad and yoghurt.



"bati" nicely presented to soup of the day accompanied by delicious deserts.

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Monica and Amarilis who

Estonia claims Europe's longest ice highway



The ice road to Hiiumaa is the longest ice road in Estonia,

TALLINN, Estonia (AFP) — Stretching for 26 kilometres (16 miles) across a frozen expanse of the Baltic Sea, an ice road will open to motor traffic week-end linking Estonia's mainland port of Rohukula with Hiiumaa island. "The ice road is opened in years when the winter is cold enough to freeze the sea strongly enough to carry cars," Raido Randmaa from Estonia's highways administration told AFP.

Under a special law, Estonian authorities can give the green light to ice roads when the marine ice sheet becomes at least 25 cm (9.8 inches) thick, according to Randmaa.

"But we usually wait until it gets to 30 cm (11 inches) everywhere," he explains, adding the ice sheet was judged thick enough for traffic last week. The grand opening of the ice highway between the port of Rohukula in north-east Estonia and Hiiumaa island -- population slightly over 10,000 -- is always a big event for the islanders.

"The ice-bridge is always very popular and becomes very crowded on weekends," Randmaa explains.

Authorities are strict about safety on the ice, with patrols keeping watch around the clock. "One of the main rules is that a new car is allowed on the ice road only every 1-2 minutes, and drivers should not get too close to the car ahead of them because otherwise the ice might crack," Randmaa told AFP.

Only Mother Nature knows how long Europe's longest ice road will stay open this year. In 2010, it lasted just 11 days in February.

"Our greatest enemy is not just warm weather but also the extreme cold that could start causing cracks inside the ice," Randmaa said.

Compared to the usual ferry service, the ice-road will cut travel time from Hiiumaa, Estonia's second largest island, to mainland Estonia by nearly two hours, making the trip only around half an hour.

Kurd play adds voice to Mideast anger

ARBIL, Iraq (AFP) — A play whose plot took actors and audience alike across Iraq's Kurdish capital of Arbil this week delivered a stinging portrait of the northern region's leaders as power-mad and greedy.

When Karukh Ibrahim's 90-minute production climaxed outside the Kurdistan region's parliament building, it was the 28-year-old director's way of adding his voice to protests that have raged against entrenched rulers throughout the Middle East.

"Qabristan", or "The Cemetery" in Kurdish, started at a park in the centre of Arbil and shifted locations in the city as the young hero in search of his mother and an old woman looking for her son were pitted against elitist officials.

From the Sami Abdul Rahman public park, the play shifted to the journalists' guild headquarters and went on to

"Through this play, I

William and Kate invite 1,900 to royal wedding



LONDON, England (AFP) — Prince William and Kate Middleton have invited 1,900 guests to their April wedding, officials said, filling Westminster Abbey with foreign royals, family, friends and reportedly David Beckham.

Gilded invitations issued in the name of Queen Elizabeth II began dropping onto doormats this week after being sent out, with the monarch's EIIR cypher die-stamped in gold.

While names of the guests were not released, the list of dignitaries due to attend the wedding on April 29 is likely to meet Kate's expectations that marrying into the royal family would amount to "quite a daunting prospect".

While British Prime Minister David Cameron has been invited, President Barack Obama and other world leaders will miss out because William is only second in line to the British throne, not the heir, The Sunday Times said.

Relatives of William's late mother, Diana, have also re-



the ministry of religious affairs before concluding in front of parliament, all with the audience in tow.

"The mother symbolises the homeland, she symbolises the nation, and all holy sites that need to be protected," said Ibrahim, adding that the younger man represented the Kurdish people.

"Through this play, I

wanted to speak to the community, to tell them that we are not going to have anything left if we forget about our homeland, if we forget our attempts to promote community," added Ibrahim.

His last play two years ago dealt with religious co-existence in Kurdistan.

In "Qabristan", the unnamed young hero eventually encounters the older woman during his quest. After arriving in front of Kurdistan's parliament, the pair run into a group of men who refuse to let them continue with their enquiries.

They declare that the youth cannot go further, saying, "Everything is in our hands -- we control everyone, things move only after we give orders."

The young hero then responds: "My mother is not like you -- my mother does not crave positions, my mother does not impose her power on others, she is not from your class!"

All the while, the men physically force the older woman to move according to their instructions.

The scenes are a direct commentary on the dominance in the autonomous region, comprised of three provinces in Iraq's north, of two political parties that have been led by the same two men for decades.

The Patriotic Union of Kurdistan of Iraqi President Jalal Talabani and the Kurdistan Democratic Party of regional president Massud Barzani (and before him his father Mustafa) have lorded over the region since it gained a degree of autonomy in the 1970s.

"We have tried, through this theatrical production, to shed light on some of the problems that are prevalent in our society," said Sayeh Hussein, who plays the woman searching for her son.

While the region is widely seen as safer than the rest of Iraq, several instances of intimidation against critics of the government have been recorded.

Westwood, Woods among Match-Play top seeds

MARANA, Arizona (AFP) – England's Lee Westwood will make his first US start as world number one against Sweden's Henrik Stenson when the \$1.4 million World Golf Championships Match-Play Championship begins Wednesday.

And third-ranked Tiger Woods, a three-time Match-Play champion who is also a top seed in his quarter of the 64-man bracket, will open against Denmark's Thomas Bjorn, a two-time British Open runner-up who won at Qatar two weeks ago.

German world number two Martin Kaymer and reigning Masters champion Phil Mickelson are also top seeds in pairings that follow world rankings except for 2007 Match-Play winner Stenson, in from 65th after Japan's 64th-ranked Toru Taniguchi withdrew due to a neck injury.

Mickelson opens against Australian Brendan Jones while 2010 PGA Championship winner Kaymer's first match will be against South Korean Noh Seung-yul.

"I just try and worry about my own game and if I play well, I know I can beat who I'm playing," Australian veteran Robert Allenby said. "It's when you start worrying about your opponent or everyone else you come undone."

Woods, still seeking his first victory since the sex



scandal that erupted 16 months ago, faces a tough draw in order to end his drought this week.

Woods, a 14-time major champion, won the event in 2003, 2004 and 2008, but none of those was contested on the current Dove Mountain course.

Irishman Padraig Harrington, a three-time major champion, and Australian Geoff Ogilvy, who won the event in 2006 and 2009, meet in a first-round feature matchup with Woods, if he advances, facing the winner in the second round.

England's Paul Casey, the WGC Match-Play runner-up the past two years and a second seed this year, plus South African stars Ernie Els and Tim Clark and Colombia's Camilo Villegas, third last year, are among possible quarter-final foes for Woods.

In 10 starts at the event, Westwood has never reached the third round, but he will be expected to break that barrier, in part because Stenson's

only top-10 effort since 2009 in a PGA-sanctioned event was his share of third at last year's British Open.

Westwood's potential second-round foes are Americans Anthony Kim and Nick Watney with South African Retief Goosen, Italy's Francesco Molinari and South Korean K.J. Choi among his possible third-round rivals.

US second seed Steve Stricker, who opens against Italian teen Matteo Manassero, or English third seed Luke Donald could await Westwood in the quarter-finals.

Japan's Ryo Ishikawa and Italy's Edoardo Molinari are also in that portion of the bracket.

Mickelson could face rising US star Rickie Fowler in round two and either reigning British Open champion Louis Oosthuizen of South Africa or US veteran Matt Kuchar in round three of a difficult draw to the last four.

His quarter-bracket also features second-seeded reigning US Open champion Graeme McDowell of Northern Ireland and English third seed Ian Poulter, the defending champion. Poulter and McDowell could meet in round three.

The quarter also features South Korean Yang Yong-Eun, the first Asian man to win a major title, plus England's Ross Fisher and his first-round foe Allenby.

"Match play is one of those games," Allenby said. "You could shoot 7-under and lose. You could shoot 1-over and win. It just depends on your partner. But it is just one hole at a time."

"If you're on your game, you should win, but Match Play is very funny. It's a very fickle game so anything can happen. It plays with your mind, Match Play does, and probably at the end of the week it's the one with the toughest mind will win."

That could well be Kaymer, although he faces a tough draw as well with England's Justin Rose or American Zach Johnson in round two and Swede Robert Karlsson or American Hunter Mahan potentially lurking in round three.

Second seed Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland, US third seed Jim Furyk and Australian Adam Scott are also in Kaymer's quarter of the draw.



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League partners with South Africa's Royal Bafokeng

LOS ANGELES (AFP) – NBA officials announced Monday that they have agreed to a multi-year partnership with South Africa's Royal Bafokeng Nation for a school-based basketball development program.

The 29-village region of the North West Province, whose community-owned stadium at Rustenburg became the first such venue to host FIFA World Cup matches last year, will launch the programme in April.

"We are proud to join with the Royal Bafokeng Nation, whose forward-looking vision includes the positive impact sports can have on communities," said NBA commissioner David Stern.

Contract talks the big deal in US sport

MIAMI (AFP) - With NFL and NBA owners and players deadlocked in negotiations ahead of expiring contracts, Major League Baseball will try and start work now to prevent pushing too close to a December deadline.

Major League Baseball Players Association union chief Michael Weiner began a tour of team camps Monday to inform players of plans for talks regarding a new collective bargaining agreement to replace one expiring in December.

"We're prepared to try to get it done," Weiner said. "I'm confident that the ownership is prepared to try to get it done as well. You don't know

until you get to the table."

NFL talks continued Monday in Washington with both sides vowing no public comments as they work with a federal non-binding mediator ahead of the March 3 expiration of their current labor deal.

NFL union leaders fear owners will impose a lockout that could threaten the 2011 season.

NBA owners and union leaders spoke at last weekend's NBA All-Star Game in Los Angeles ahead of a June 30 expiration of their agreement, about two weeks after the NBA Finals and four months ahead of the likely 2011-2012 openers.



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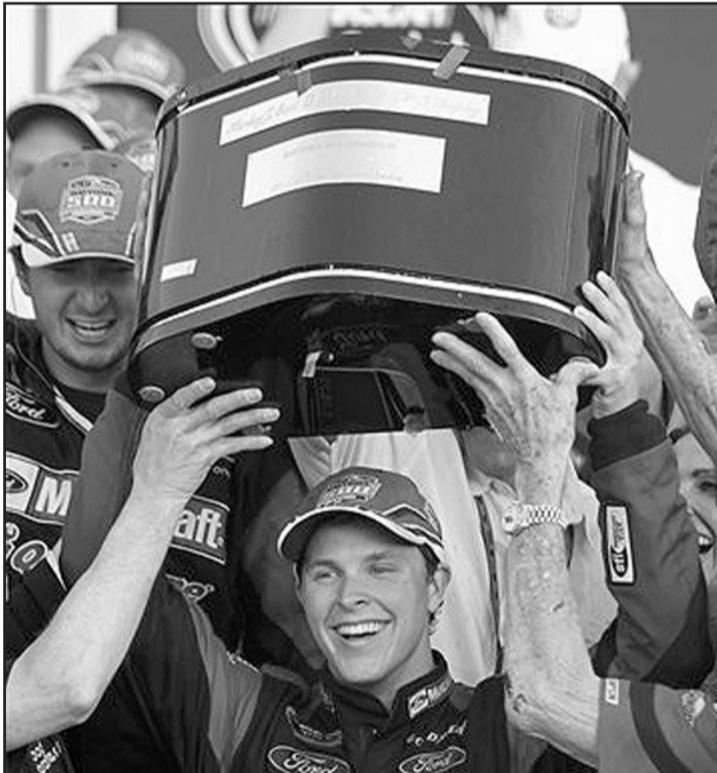


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Bayne becomes youngest Daytona champ



DAYTONA BEACH, Florida (AFP) – Trevor Bayne, in only his second top-level race, became the youngest

Daytona 500 champion, winning the US stock car classic only a day after his 20th birthday.

In a race that produced a record 16 caution flags, Bayne held off a fistful of veteran racers in his Ford over a final two-lap race to the checkered flag to become the second-youngest winner in NASCAR Sprint Cup series history.

"I don't even know where to go," Bayne said. "I didn't even know how to get to Victory Lane."

Bayne pulled off an unlikely triumph for the Wood Brothers team, a famed stock car pioneer group that collected its 98th series victory but its first in a decade and first at Daytona since 1976.

"I keep thinking I'm dreaming. I really do," Bayne said. "To win our first 500 in our second-ever Cup race, it's unbelievable. Wow."

Bayne, who surpassed Jeff Gordon's 1997 win at age 25 to become Daytona's youngest champion, edged US compatriot Carl Edwards with David Gilliland third, Bobby Labonte fourth, Kurt Busch fifth and Colombia's Juan Pablo Montoya, a former Formula One racer, in sixth.

"I've never been to a race track with this many people," Bayne told the crowd at Daytona International Speedway oval.

Bayne was only expecting a partial-season run but taking the winner's prize of \$1,462,563 dollars might change those plans.

Ten years after US stock car icon Dale Earnhardt Snr was killed in a last-lap crash at the Daytona 500, there were 74 lead changes in the second-slowest 500.

Crashes tamed the pace, one of them coming near the end of the scheduled 200 laps to force the event into extra laps.

Bryant affirms place among basketball elite



The West Team's Kobe Bryant of the LA Lakers (R) keeps the ball from East Team's Ray Allen of the Boston Celtics during the NBA All-Star Game

LOS ANGELES (AFP) – Kobe Bryant put on a dazzling display in his backyard, scoring 37 points and capturing the MVP honours as the West edged the East 148-143 in the 60th NBA all-star game.

The Los Angeles Lakers guard Bryant also had 14 rebounds, three steals and three assists, finishing just five points shy of Wilt Chamberlain's all-star game scoring record of 42 points.

Bryant's 37 points on Sunday propelled him past Elgin Baylor and Julius Erving into fourth on the all-time, all-star

scoring list with 244 points.

"Being at home I wanted to come out, play hard and put on a good show," said the 32-year old Bryant, who also won the MVP in 2009, 2007 and 2002.

"This feels great being at home and playing in front of home crowd. This will be my last all-star game in front of these fans. So it feels good."

Bryant's fourth MVP performance overshadowed the brilliant all-star debut of Los Angeles Clippers rookie Blake Griffin, who finished with eight points, five rebounds and five assists.

Bet on IndyCar in Vegas

LAS VEGAS (AFP) - IndyCar is expected to announce Las Vegas as the site of its 2011 season-ending race on October 16 at a Tuesday news conference in the famed US gambling mecca.

The US-based open-wheel auto series announced the news conference on Monday after having spent months working on a deal to stage an event in Las Vegas.

The series was confident enough to announce a date for the race, two weeks after the penultimate firm race on

the calendar at Sparta, Kentucky, but would not reveal a site.

Adding a Las Vegas event would boost the season to 17 races, the first of which is set for March 27 at St. Petersburg, Florida.

The only races outside North America on the schedule are September 18 at Twin Ring Motegi in what will be the final IndyCar event on the Japanese oval track and May 1 in Sao Paulo, Brazil, in the final tuneup for the famed Indianapolis 500 on May 29.

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Top seed Roddick out at Delray Beach

DELRAY BEACH (AFP) - US top seed Andy Roddick pulled out of the ATP Delray Beach International Championship on Monday, complaining that he felt ill after winning his 30th career ATP crown on Sunday at Memphis.

Roddick was pushed to the limit by 20-year-old Canadian Milos Raonic before winning

7-6 (9/7), 6-7 (11/13), 7-5, smacking a diving forehand passing winner on match point in what he called the greatest shot of his career.

Roddick, 28, made his pro debut at Delray Beach in 2000 but has not played in the \$442,500 event since 2003, his best showing a 2002 runner-up effort.

The morning meeting took place in a breeding shed near Versailles, Kentucky, at Lane's End Farm, where Curlin stands at stud, and the offspring figure to be prized indeed give the stellar career enjoyed by both now," Jackson said. "Imagine what possibilities those two super horses might produce."

"We have been anticipating this introduction for some time

the sire and dam.

Rachel Alexandra was the first filly in more than 80 years to win the Preakness and added the Haskell, Woodward and Kentucky Oaks during an unbeaten eight race streak in 2009.

Jackson purchased her shortly after the Oaks victory

and retired her last September.

Curlin, the all-time US prize money leader with more than \$10.5 million in earnings, won the 2007 Preakness and retired after finishing fourth in the 2008 Breeders' Cup Classic, his only career finish outside the top three.

Stonestreet Stables co-

owner Barbara Banke was pleased to help bring the famed horses together.

"Both horses embody that intangible equine ideal that separate mere horse from legend. Both Jess and I are so pleased that these powerful bloodlines will pass to future generations."

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